

Nation's First Vietnam Veterans Memorial To Honor Utah Vietnam Veterans

Utah veterans who lost their lives during the Vietnam War will be honored in January 1995 at the DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial.

The origin of the Memorial dates back to the death of Victor David Westphall, III on May 22, 1968, in Vietnam. In the late summer of 1968, Dr. Westphall, his wife, Jeanne and younger son, Douglas, started construction of what was then known as the Vietnam Veterans Peace and Brotherhood Memorial Chapel.

Subsequently, the Disabled American Veterans Organization became interested in the project and

the Memorial and the process of healing that takes place there.

A popular display among the visitors to the Memorial is an educational exhibit, the first of its kind in the nation, that uses the latest audiovisual technology to assist those visiting the Memorial in learning more about the Vietnam War. The exhibit offers immediately access to film footage and still photographs taken during the war, and allows the visitors to view TV, newspaper, and magazine reports from this period of American history.

The Memorial Chapel is open to the public 24 hours a day.

However, the Visitors Center is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday including the months of October-April and from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday during the months of May-September.

The Memorial staff welcomes the public to visit and experience the DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial located in Angel Fire, NM, just 26 miles east of Taos. For additional information, phone (505) 377-6900 or write to: DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial, P.O. Box 608, Angel Fire, NM 87710.